

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 18-38 are allowed over the prior art of record.
2. An Examiner's Amendment to the record appears. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to Applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 C.F.R. 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the Issue Fee.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

- Ren
1/22/07*
3. Claim 18 (amended): A system for use in achieving distributed data storage over a computer network comprising:

a storage server system comprising one or more storage servers that each comprise a data storage device and a network interface for communicating with one or more application clients that will require data storage and at least one management storage server; and

a management server system comprising one or more management storage servers that each comprise a network interface for communicating with an application client and each of said storage servers;

each of said management servers and each of said data storage servers comprising a data storage configuration identifier whose value is indicative of an allocation of data storage within said storage server system at a point in time, the allocation of data storage within said storage server system comprising one or more